

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 THE HA 02186 141128 Z

46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSC-01 SS-15 NSC-10 SAJ-01 GAC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12

PRS-01 CU-04 AID-20 CEA-02 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

CIEP-02 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-20

SCI-06 HEW-08 HUD-02 EPA-04 RSR-01 /179 W

----- 053735

P R 141030 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1287

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THE HAGUE 2186

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, NL.

SUBJECT: NEW DUTCH GOVT: MINISTERS OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE,
TRANSPORTATION, HEALTH AND HOUSING

REF: THE HAGUE 2176

1. MINISTER FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE JAN PRONK, LABOR,
33. STUDIED AT ECONOMIC UNIVERSITY IN ROTTERDAM WHERE
HE ATTRACTED ATTENTION OF NOBEL PRIZE WINNER TINBERGEN
WHOSE DISCIPLE AND POSSIBLE SUCCESSOR AT ROTTERDAM ECONOMIC
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 THE HA 02186 141128 Z

UNIVERSITY HE IS CONSIDERED. ENTERED SECOND CHAMBER IN 1971. SERVED AS SECRETARY OF MANSHOLT COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRESSIVE PEOPLE'S PARTY. QUICKLY BECAME PARTY'S ACKNOWLEDGED EXPERT ON DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. ATTENDED UNCTAD CONFERENCE IN SANTIAGO. IS CRITICAL OF DEVELOPED WORK'S (ESPECIALLY EUROPE AND US) ATTITUDES TO THIRD WORLD ASSISTANCE. CRITIC OF US VIETNAM POLICY. REFUSED LEADER GRANT BECAUSE OF 1972 CHRISTMAS BOMBING OF NORTH VIETNAM BUT LATER SAID HE WOULD ACCEPT IT. IDEOLOGUE WHO HAS BECOME MORE FLEXIBLE DURING PERIOD AS PARLIAMENTARIAN. STRICT PROTESTANT BACKGROUND AND STILL A BELIEVER. RATHER DOUR. MARRIED WITH 2 CHILDREN. PRONK, ONE OF LABOR'S RISING STARS, OF OFTEN MENTIONED AS EVENTUAL SUCCESSOR TO DEN UYL.

2. MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION T. WESTERTERP, KVP, 42. STATE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN BIESHEUVEL CABINET. FORMER LEADER GRANTEE. ENERGETIC, INTELLIGENT AND UNABASHEDLY AMBITIOUS KVP POLITICIAN. WILL BE KVP'S WATCH-DOG IN DEN UYL GOVT. EDUCATED AT CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF NIJMEGEN BEGAN CAREER AS NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENT. LATER BECAME EUROCRAT. ENTERED SECOND CHAMBER IN 1963. IDENTIFIED WITH CHRISTIAN RADICALS BUT HAS SLOWLY MOVED TO RIGHT. VOCAL PROPONENT OF STRONGER EC INSTITUTIONS. VOTED TO BRING DOWN LAST LABOR- CATHOLIC COALITION IN 1966 BUT SAID LATER HIS VOTE HAD BEEN " MISTAKE". HIS UN-AUTHORIZED DISCUSSION WITH BURGER DURING FORMATION IRRITATED KVP LEADERSHIP BUT WESTERTERP'S ABILITIES AND DRIVE SO EVIDENT NO ONE WISHED TO DENY HIM PLACE IN CABINET ALTHOUGH CATHOLIC FARMERS OPPOSED HIS CANDIDACY FOR AGRICULTURAL PORTFOLIO. LEFT WING PARTIES FOUGHT HARD AGAINST WESTERTERP'S INCLUSION PRECISELY BECAUSE THEY AWARE HOW ABLE HE IS. WESTERTERP WILL BE COPING WITH ONE OF LARGEST AND MOST RESOURCEFUL DUTCH BUREAUCRACIES. IT IS ALSO A POLITICALLY UNPOPULAR DEPARTMENT SINCE THE MINISTER IS UNDER CONSTANT FIRE FOR HAVING TO INTRODUCE FARE INCREASES, NOT BUILDING ENOUGH HIGHWAYS, ETC. PRINCIPAL US BUSINESS WITH WESTERTERP'S DEPT IS IN FIELD OF INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION, ESPECIALLY CIVIL AVIATION. WESTERTERP IS FIRST-RATE NEGOTIATOR WHO NEVER LOSES SIGHT OF GON'S INTERESTS BUT IT WILL BE USEFUL HAVE GOOD FRIEND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 THE HA 02186 141128 Z

OF US AND EMBASSY IN THIS POSITION.

3. MINISTER OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT IRENE VORRINK, LABOR, 55. ONLY DAUGHTER OF PATRIARCH OF DUTCH SOCIALISM KOOS VORRINK. ONLY WOMAN IN THE CABINET. MEMBER OF FIRST CHAMBER SINCE 1969. LAWYER. SPECIALIST IN SOCIAL INSUR-

ANCE AND CIVIL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION, BECAME MEMBER OF
LABOR PARTY BOARD IN 1969. KNOWN AS " NEW LEFTIST".
DIVORCED WITH ONE SON. HAD BEEN MENTIONED FOR SOCIAL
AFFS BUT BOERSMA RETAINED THIS PORTFOLIO. SUCCEEDED KVP
MINISTER STUYT WHO TOOK GENERALLY HELPFUL LINE ON QUESTION
OF NARCOTICS CONTROL, ETC. VORRIN AN UNKNOWN QUANTITY
ALTHOUGH FORMER FONMIN SCHMELZER TOLD EMBASSY SHE HAD
STRONG VIEWS ON NEED TO CUT DUTCH DEFENSE BUDGET NOW.
WILL HAVE KVP STATE SECRETARY BUT MAN WHO HAS SPECIALIZED
PRIMARILY IN ADMINISTRATION OF NATIONAL HEALTH PROGRAM.

4. MINISTER OF HOUSING J. P. GRUYTERS, D'66, 42. FORMER
NEWSPAPERMAN MEMBER OF LIBERAL PARTY FOR AMSTERDAM
CITY COUNCIL BUT RESIGNED OVER QUESTION OF ATTENDANCE AT
BEATRIX- CLAUS WEDDING. FOUNDER OF D'66 AND ITS PRINCIPAL
THEORIST. AMERICAN EXPERT, PERSONALLY SYMPATHETIC TO US
WITH MANY AMERICAN FRIENDS. HOWEVER, INDULGED IN STRONG
CRITICISM, ON HUMANITARIA GROUNDS, OF AMERICAN BOMBING OF
NORTH VIETNAM LAST DECEMBER. COLUMNIST FOR " HAAGSCHE POST".
STAYED IN BACKGROUND UNTIL 1972 ELECTION. SECOND ON TICKET
BUT PRINCIPAL FIGURE IN D'66 CAPAIGN. D'66 SUFFERED
MAJOR LOSSES. GRUYTERS' ACCUSATION THAT CONFESSIONALS
" BY DEFINITION UNTRUSTWORTHY" CAUSED CONFESSIONALS TO
FIGHT TO KEEP HIM OUT OF CABINET. EVENTUALLY ACCEPTED AS
TRADE- OFF FOR INCLUSION KVP' S WESTERTEP. NO ADMINISTRATIVE
EXPERIENCE AND NO SPECIAL EXPERIENCE IN HOUSING FIELD.
WILL HAVE " HELP" OF STATE SECRETARIES JAN SCHAEFFER,
EXTREME LEFTIST WITH DECIDED IDEAS ABOUT HOUSING PROBLEMS
AND TV OMBUDSMAN MARCEL VAN DAM. MARRIED. ONE SON.
MIDDENDORF

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973THEHA02186
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730544/aaaajepq.tel
Line Count: 147
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 THE HAGUE 2176
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Sep-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <20-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980212
Subject: NEW DUTCH GOVT: MINISTERS OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE, TRANSPORTATION, HEALTH AND HOUSING
TAGS: PGOV, NL
To: EUR
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005